

Photos by Steve Griffin/The Salt Lake Tribune

A front-end loader lifts granite at the quarry in Little Cottonwood Canyon. The LDS Church will ask permission to excavate closer to residential lots, claiming quarrying for new Assembly Building would be finished sooner and be less annoying in the long run.

## Church Asks to Quarry Closer to Canyon Homes

LDS officials will ask board to bend rules

BY BRANDON LOOMIS  
THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

The Mormon Church's Little Cottonwood Canyon granite mining is growing by leaps and boulders, angering neighbors who failed to block the work last year.

The church nearly has doubled its projections for the rock tonnage required to finish the facade on its new downtown Salt Lake City Assembly Building. On Tuesday, the church is scheduled to ask the Salt Lake County Planning Commission to bend its canyon-development rules to allow quarrying within 1,000 feet of residential lots.

Church officials say collecting boulders on the flats nearer homes will be quicker and easier than continuing to pull them from a pile at the foot of a hill. That might allow the contractor to finish the mining this year instead of stretching it to the county-imposed deadline of June 2000.

"We're trying to finish the job," said Kerry Nielsen, architect for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The 21,000-seat hall tentatively is set to open in April.

To those who tried to halt the

church's return to the quarry that supplied stone a century ago for the Salt Lake Temple, it seems likelier that church officials just want to take as much rock as they can this year.

"I just know in my heart that once this 1,000-foot barrier is broken they'll just keep going," said Karen Cunningham, a quarry neighbor who unsuccessfully sued to stop the mining because steep access roads violated a county canyon- and hillside-protection ordinance. She suspects the church is stockpiling rock so future buildings also will match the temple.

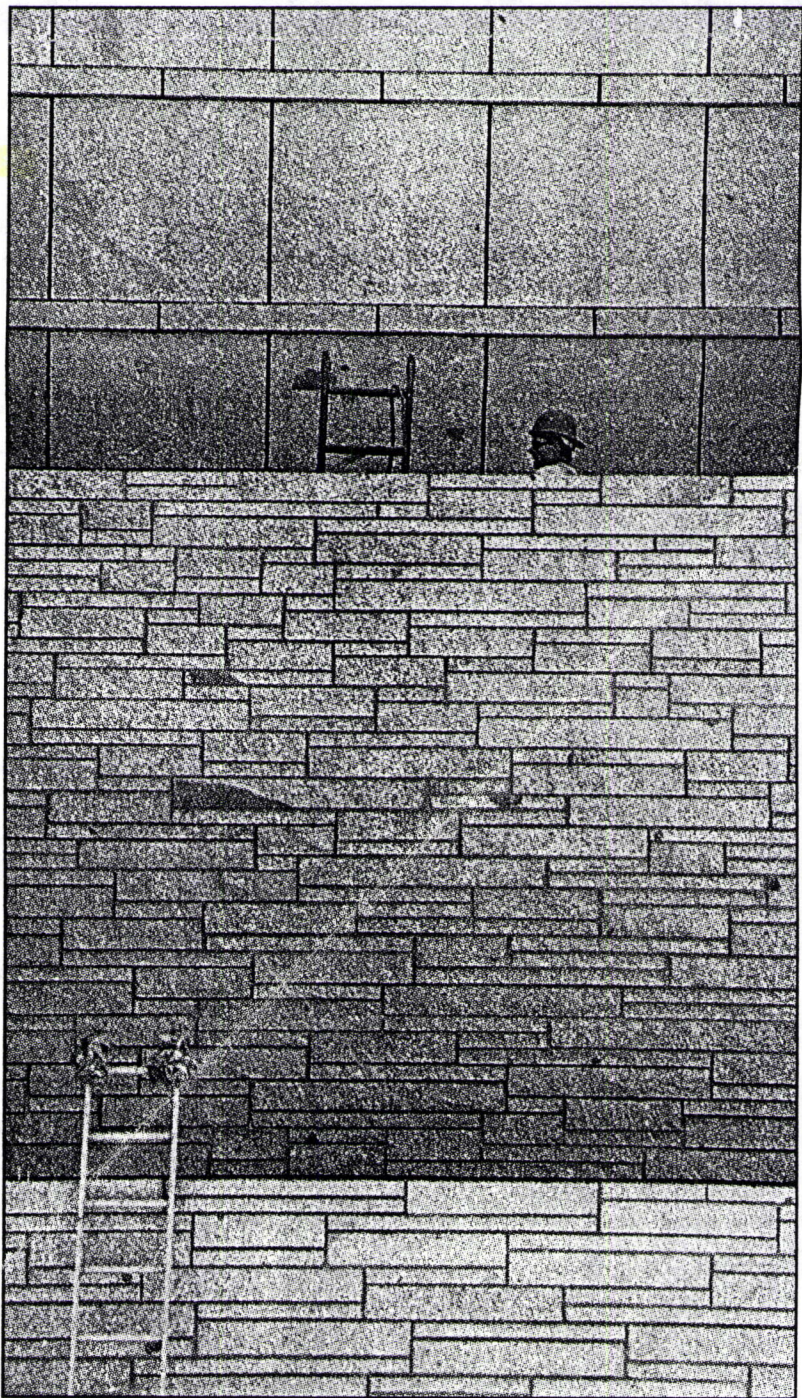
When the county granted a conditional-use permit to collect and split boulders on the church's property, it was understood that 11,400 tons would be required to cut enough slabs for the Assembly Building. That number became confused at trial when a contractor for the job said it might take up to 20,000 tons, but church officials said that was a misstatement.

Then, in February, Nielsen wrote county Planning Director J.D. Johnson that the project would require up to 10,000 tons

See LDS CHURCH, Page D-3

### ■ Meeting Set

Salt Lake County's Planning Commission is scheduled Tuesday to consider the LDS Church's request to mine granite closer to homes in Little Cottonwood Canyon. The meeting is at 8 a.m. in the County Commission Chambers, 2001 S. State St.



The top section at the Assembly Hall in Salt Lake City shows how the granite boulders look after they are cut and polished.

## Council To Cor Burned

Mayor picks fi

BY SCOTT NOLAND

THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

The Salt Lake City Council twice unhappy with Mayor dee Corradini this week.

First, she did not give members a chance to evaluate choices for new trustee pointments for the Salt Organizing Committee. Second, one of her choices was a time friend and business associate Don Leonard.

1997, council member said Leonard's relationship with Corradini presented a conflict of interest in city government.

Corradini and Gov. Mike Leavitt appointed seven new SLOC trustees Thursday, bringing the board membership to 53. City Council Chairman Keith Christensen said Corradini promised to consult council before making appointments or decisions regarding the Olympics. Yet members not see the names before the nouncement at a SLOC management committee meeting.

Corradini spokesman Connaughton said the mayor in Atlanta on city business unavailable for comment.

"The City Council, to a son, is displeased that the mayor did not honor her comment," Christensen said. "I promised she would. V didn't she?"

Had the mayor kept word, he said, the council would still have a problem with the pointment of Leonard, a government-relations consultant and a board member of Utah Sports Authority.

Leonard's successful effort to bring the Buzz baseball team

## LDS Hospital In Heart-D

BY NORMA WAGNER

THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

LDS Hospital in Salt Lake City is among 25 medical centers across the country participating in a groundbreaking study to determine if treatment cardiac patients with antibiotics prevents future coronary artery disease.

The four-year study is funded with \$11 million from the National Institutes of Health. It is the largest amount ever allocated by the federal agency study antibiotic treatment heart disease — the nation's killer.

The national study results in part from findings of a two-year clinical trial at LDS Hospital.

The first phase of that trial found a type of chlamydia bacteria in plaque taken from clogged arteries of heart-disease patients.



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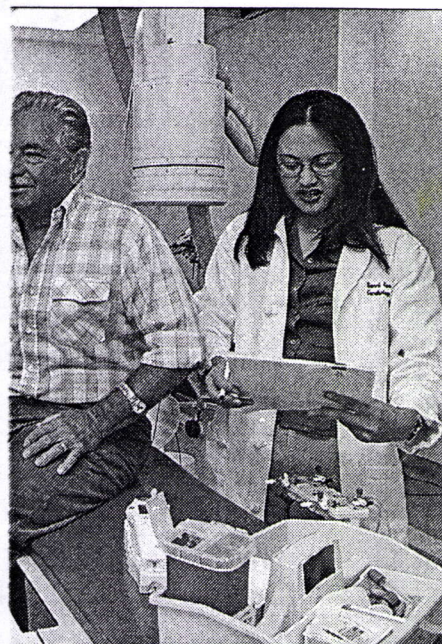
was a program that offers a certificate in school  
counseling that has been in place several years and  
continues to operate.

Doug Bates, attorney for the state Office of Educa-  
tion, said he has received no complaints about the

educators with ties to the University of Utah, re-  
mains excited at the school and have received  
many of e-mail messages in support of the school.  
The school plans to open in the fall of 2000 and will  
serve about 85 seventh-graders.

SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

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Michael J. Miller/The Salt Lake Tribune

Maycock, left, Rob Pearson and  
bert Magana, seated.

The markers are molecules secreted by  
inflammatory cells in the blood vessel  
and are associated with the formation of  
plaque.

That still did not prove that antibiotics  
cure coronary disease, so the re-  
searchers are continuing to track those  
patients over the next year to see if  
those who received the drug suffer fewer  
episodes of heart disease than those tak-  
ing the placebo.

Meanwhile, the research team will con-  
tinue enrolling heart patients into the  
large national trial, which is designed to  
determine the same issue.

"This could change practice patterns  
for heart disease patients — much like  
how we treated peptic ulcers a decade  
ago," said LDS Hospital spokesman Jess  
Mez.

"We thought it was stress that caused  
ulcers and actually it was bacteria. Now,  
peptic ulcers are successfully treated  
with antibiotics."

## LDS Church Seeks to Quarry Closer to Homes

■ Continued from D-1

more than the 11,400 estimate. "Due to  
an experienced lower yield than expected  
to date [finished material/gross amounts  
recovered], we estimate that we will need  
to recover 9,000 to 10,000 additional  
gross tons to complete the project," Niel-  
sen wrote.

The contractor, Idaho Travertine  
Corp., is discovering that much of the  
rock is fractured internally and not use-  
ful as slabs, owner Theo Orchard said.  
More than half the material is wasted, he  
said, though it is impossible to tell which  
pieces will hold up until the rock arrives  
at Idaho Travertine's plant in Idaho Falls.

Neither the company nor the church is  
stockpiling granite for future construc-  
tion, Orchard said. In fact, most of the  
waste probably will be crushed into land-  
scaping pebbles. "Our instructions are to  
just get material for this building," Or-  
chard said.

Church project manager Tom Hanson  
said he hopes the quarry does yield some  
excess, but that it would be used for re-  
pairs to the temple and Assembly Build-  
ing, not a new building.

"I hope that we end up with more rather  
than less than we need, and obviously  
if we do, we'll use those," Hanson said.

This is not the first time the church has  
returned to the quarry, either for a new  
building or for repair parts. The granite  
was used for a temple annex in the 1960s,  
and again for repairs throughout Temple  
Square earlier this decade.

So far, Idaho Travertine has removed  
13,000 tons from the quarry, he said. Al-  
though the quarry permit was based on  
an assumption of 11,400 tons, it carries  
no legal limit.

"That wasn't part of the conditions, al-

though it was a target," Johnson said.  
"We're more interested in the time [limit]  
and the other conditions."

One of those conditions is the 1,000-  
foot buffer from homes. Johnson said it  
will take more than just an argument for  
convenient quarrying to convince him  
lifting that rule is warranted.

"I felt like we had made some agree-  
ments on the 1,000-foot [limit]," Johnson  
said. The church now is asking to come  
within 750 feet of some homes that are  
under construction, then back off when  
the homes are occupied.

If the neighbors agree to that, speeding  
up the project could be reason enough to  
change the rules, Johnson said. But he  
does not expect that.

Cunningham said the blasts that split  
the boulders are close enough to her  
home now, and often rattle her windows.  
She said the minor earthquake that  
struck the area last week felt similar.

"I felt the rumble and my house shook  
violently and I said, 'That's funny, I didn't  
hear the blast,'" Cunningham said.

Others who fought the initial quarry  
application also are preparing for another  
round at Tuesday's Planning Commis-  
sion meeting.

Rock climber Dave Carrier, who long  
has used the area for recreation, says the  
county and the church have tried to mini-  
mize public perception of environmental  
disturbance in the canyons. If allowed to  
grow, the quarry project will scar one of  
the Wasatch Front's most pristine areas,  
he said.

"The church and the county have mis-  
represented what's going on up there all  
along," Carrier said. "What are they do-  
ing with the extra 10,000 tons? Is the rock  
going to start turning up as coffee tables  
or tiles on floors?"

Carrier said he understands why the  
church would want to return to the quar-  
ry that pioneers used after settling here.  
But he wants the county to protect the  
canyon's most valuable modern use: a se-  
mi-urban gateway to wilderness.

"It's long past the time when quarrying  
and mining were appropriate uses for  
these canyons," Carrier said.

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